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# Action Comics

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SUPERMAN!

GEOFF JOHNS & RICHARD DONNER — WRITERS

HELP ME, SUPERMAN!

SUPERMAN IS NOT THE LAST SON OF KRYPTON.

ADAM KUBERT — ARTIST

DAVE STEWART — COLOR ARTIST

ROB LEIGH — LETTERER

RAY ZONE — 3-D EFFECTS

MY SON IS THE LAST.

HELP ME!

MY SON IS THE LAST.

HE BELONGS TO US.

HELP!

HE BELONGS TO US.

HELP!

HE BELONGS TO US.

NACHIE CASTRO — ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MATT IDELSON — EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER

AS WILL EARTH.

AS WILL EARTH.

AS WILL EARTH.

AS WILL EARTH.

ARRRGHHH!

SUPERMAN?

...ZOD...

KAL-EL?

RRRGG.

CLARK?

I KNOW YOU WANT TO FIGHT IT, BUT THAT'S THE WORST THING YOU CAN DO.

WHAT'S... HAPPENING... TO...ME...?

YOUR EYES ARE READJUSTING TO THE PHANTOM ZONE. YOUR HEART IS SLOWING DOWN. AND YOUR BODY'S DENSITY IS EVAPORATING.

YOU NEED TO IGNORE THE SOUNDS AND IMAGES LEAKING IN FROM THE THIRD DIMENSION.

IF YOU STARE AT THEM TOO LONG...

# LAST SON PART FOUR

ROCKETED TO EARTH FROM THE DOOMED PLANET KRYPTON, THE BABY KAL-EL WAS FOUND AND RAISED BY JONATHAN AND MARTHA KENT IN SMALLVILLE, KANSAS. NOW AN ADULT, CLARK KENT FIGHTS FOR TRUTH, JUSTICE & THE AMERICAN WAY AS...

SUPERMAN

...YOU'LL GO QUITE *MAD.*

...WHO...?

MY NAME IS LAR GAND.

YOU KNEW ME AS *MON-EL* YEARS AGO.

MON-EL?

YOU HAVE TO *REMEMBER* ME...

...I WAS A STUDENT ON DAXAM STUDYING KRYPTON.

DESPITE DAXAM'S LAWS FORBIDDING SPACE TRAVEL, I LEFT IN A RELIC SPACECRAFT I HAD DISCOVERED IN HOPES OF TRACKING YOUR ROCKET.

I FOLLOWED IT TO EARTH AND FOUND YOU, BUT I LOST MY MEMORY.

FOR DAYS, BECAUSE I HAD THE SAME POWERS AND ABILITIES AS YOU UNDER YOUR YELLOW SUN, WE BOTH BELIEVED I WAS ANOTHER SURVIVOR OF KRYPTON.

UNTIL I WAS EXPOSED TO *LEAD.*

MY MEMORIES RETURNED, BUT MY FATE WAS *SEALED.* LEAD IS *LETHAL* TO DAXAMITES AND ITS POISONING IRREVERSIBLE.

THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE MY LIFE WAS TO STOP *TIME.*

SO UPON MY REQUEST, YOU SENT ME TO A PLACE WHERE TIME *DOES* STOP.

I REMEMBER.

YOU WERE THE ONLY *INNOCENT* EVER SENT INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE. AND *I* WAS THE ONE WHO PUT YOU IN HERE.

I PROMISED YOU THAT I'D FIND A *CURE,* BUT EVERY TIME I'VE TRIED I'VE FAILED.

I'VE FAILED YOU. I'VE FAILED LOIS AND CHRISTOPHER.

I'VE FAILED EARTH.

NOT YET, YOU HAVEN'T.

IT ALL STARTED WHEN GENERAL ZOD FOUND *THIS.*

IT WAS A KRYPTONIAN PRISON CALLED FORT ROZZ.

HOW DID IT GET INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE?

DEV-EM WAS TO BE SENT HERE FOR CRIMES OF ***MURDER*** AND ***PERVERSION,*** BUT BEFORE HIS JAILERS COULD ACTIVATE THE PHANTOM ZONE PROJECTOR A ***RIOT*** BROKE OUT.

HE SHOULD BE, KAL.

DURING THE REVOLT, THE PROJECTOR EXPLODED AND THE ENTIRE PRISON WAS TRANSPORTED HERE.

THE METAL'S... ***SOLID?***

SO THAT'S HOW GENERAL ZOD HAD CHRISTOPHER.

CHRISTOPHER'S REAL NAME IS LOR-ZOD.

AND IF ANYONE ENTERS, THEY BECOME SOLID TOO. UNLIKE THE REST OF THE PHANTOM ZONE, TIME PASSES INSIDE FORT ROZZ.

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE HE'S ONE OF THEM.

HE SEEMED SO TERRIFIED WHEN HE SAW HIS FATHER.

ZOD AND URSA HAVE BEEN ABUSING THEIR SON FOR YEARS.

BECAUSE HE WAS BORN HERE, CHRISTOPHER'S SOMEHOW *IMMUNE* TO THE ZONE'S EFFECTS.

EVEN OUTSIDE OF THIS PRISON, HE NEVER TRANSFORMED INTO A *PHANTOM.*

ZOD AND THE OTHERS MANIPULATED THE PHANTOM ZONE TECHNOLOGY INSIDE THE PRISON AND WERE ABLE TO SEND CHRISTOPHER TO EARTH.

ONCE THERE, CHRISTOPHER'S ROCKET KEPT THE DOORWAY HE CREATED OPEN. THEY BUILT THE ROCKETS INSIDE.

IF TIME STARTS UP FOR YOU, YOU'LL BE *DEAD* IN A MATTER OF *MINUTES.* YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE.

BUT I CAN.

KAL, WAIT!

DEV-EM STAYED WHEN THE OTHERS LEFT. HE'S STILL IN THERE. AND IN THE ZONE THERE'S NO *YELLOW SUN.*

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY POWERS HERE.

NEITHER DOES HE.

ZOD SAID HE'D BANISH YOU HERE.

SO I VOLUNTEERED TO *WAIT.*

DEV-EM, I PRESUME.

HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND YET?

I'M TO CUT IT FROM YOUR SKULL IF YOU HAVEN'T, SON OF JOR-EL!

THE NAME'S *SUPERMAN.*

IT WAS *HIS* FAULT KRYPTON WASN'T SAVED. HE *KNEW,* BUT HE CHOSE ONLY TO PROTECT *YOU.*

GENERAL ZOD TOLD US OF YOUR FATHER'S *FAILINGS.*

MY FATHER DID EVERYTHING HE THOUGHT HE COULD.

IF HE HAD WORKED *WITH* ZOD, HE COULD HAVE DESTROYED THE COUNCIL.

MY FATHER WASN'T A MURDERER.

HE ABANDONED YOU AS HE DID KRYPTON.

AND NOW YOU *DIE* AS YOU LIVED ON EARTH, KAL-EL--

--*ALONE.*

HE'S NOT ALONE.

NmNKk.

MON-EL!

=katchh=

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HELPING A FRIEND.

THE LEAD POISONING'S STARTED AGAIN.

I'VE GOT TO GET YOU BACK INTO THE ZONE.

KAL...DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID THE DAY WE MET?

I SAID... I SAID I'D NEVER MET ANYONE WHO UNDERSTOOD ME BEFORE.

I NEVER TOLD YOU...

...I DIDN'T EITHER.

MON-EL...

...I'M SORRY.

THE TRIP HOME WILL BE PAINFUL...AND ***DANGEROUS.***

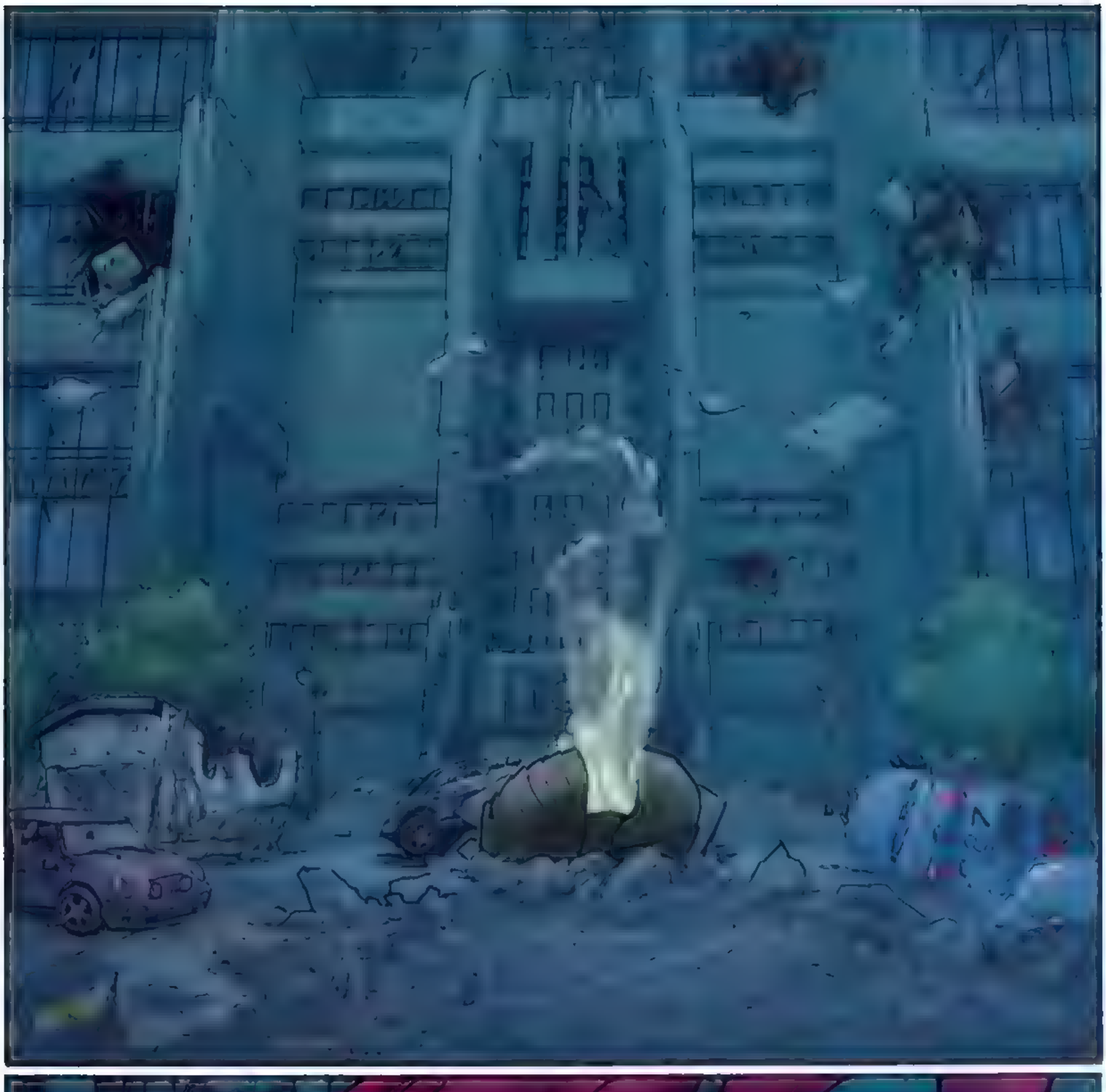
NOT EVERY ROCKET MADE IT TO EARTH WITHOUT BREAKING APART.

THAT'S A RISK I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TAKE.

WHEN YOU GET OUT OF HERE, YOU'RE GOING TO NEED A WORLD THERE TO WELCOME YOU BACK.

GOOD-LUCK, KAL-EL.

I'LL MAKE SURE YOU HAVE IT.



JUSTICE LEAGUE

"LOIS LANE?"

OUT OF *ALL* THE EARTHWOMEN ON THE PLANET, KAL-EL HAS CHOSEN YOU TO HELP COMPLETE HIS HUMAN MASQUERADE?

YOUR BIOLOGICAL INFERIORITY PREVENTS YOU FROM BEARING HIS CHILD.

WHAT CAN YOU *POSSIBLY* GIVE SOMEONE LIKE *HIM*?

BIX

AND WHAT DO YOU OFFER ZOD?

OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT YOU'RE THE *ONLY* FEMALE I SEE FLYING AROUND.

I AM THE *LAST* FEMALE KRYPTONIAN BY *MY* CHOICE, HUMAN.

BUT THAT IS *NOT* WHY THE GENERAL HAS CHOSEN *ME*.

NnKk

*URSA*.

DO *NOT* HARM HER.

THIS LOIS LANE IS OF NO USE TO US ANYMORE, GENERAL.

SHE IS OF *USE*--

--TO *ME*.

THERE IS A REASON KAL-EL *SETTLED* FOR LOIS LANE.

I WISH TO FIND OUT *WHY*.

AAAAAHH!

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

WHAT SUPERMAN WOULD DO.

YOUR SHORT TIME FREE FROM THE PHANTOM ZONE HAS *CONFUSED* YOUR LOYALTIES, LOR-ZOD.

YOU WILL *REMEMBER* THEY LIE WITH YOUR *FATHER*.

I'LL *MAKE* YOU REMEMBER.

I WARNED THEM ALL FOR YEARS.

DO NOT PUT YOUR *FAITH* IN SUPERMAN. HE WILL NOT SAVE HUMANITY BECAUSE HE IS *NOT* HUMAN.

HE IS KRYPTONIAN.

AND THE WORLD FINALLY SEES KRYPTONIANS FOR WHAT THEY ARE.

YET THEY HAVE *NO* IDEA HOW TO *STOP* THEM. THEY AREN'T PREPARED.

LUCKY FOR THEM--

--LEX LUTHOR *IS*--

AS SOON AS THE WORLD'S IN TROUBLE, YOU RETREAT *RIGHT* TO ONE OF YOUR *RAT'S NESTS.*

I WOULD'VE CLEANED UP IF I KNEW YOU WERE COMING.

YOU'VE SPENT YEARS TRYING TO KILL ME, LUTHOR.

YOU'VE UNLOCKED EVERY WAY TO HURT ME.

YOU'VE BUILT *HUNDREDS* OF WEAPONS TO DO IT.

MIND IF I *BORROW* THEM?

HAHAHAH

YOU WILL BE TEAMING UP WITH US.

TO BE CONTINUED IN ACTION COMICS ANNUAL #1!!

SUPERMAN AND THE ALL-NEW SUPERMAN REVENGE SQUAD TAKE ON GENERAL ZOD AND HIS ARMY AS THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER KENT HANGS IN THE BALANCE!

Four funerals and a wedding. For a while, that's what I was calling our plans for the DCU in '07.

First there was the death of Duela Dent, Joker's Daughter. Not a major character by any stretch of the imagination, but her fatal confrontation with a Monitor in the first issue of COUNTDOWN triggered a series of events that will tear at the very fabric of the multiverse and set brother against brother.

Then there was the death of Lightray. As he was one of the most likable members of the New Gods, his death had particular significance because it showed that not even the gods are safe from events unfurling. Over the next few months you will see the mystery around his death will grow and widen as his cloaked killer (and no, it's not me; I have a good alibi for the time of each murder) plans not to stop until every New God is destroyed.

Bart's death last week was particularly disheartening because his time as The Flash was so short-lived. Never did the Rogues ever truly believe they could kill a Flash; now they, and all the villains of the DC Universe, must deal with the repercussions of their actions. All the villains must face a choice, and they will all find out that salvation comes at a very high price.

Not everything in the DCU is tragic. We have a wedding planned and a good time is guaranteed – or at least I think it is. But as with the case of Green Arrow and Black Canary, nothing has ever gone smooth for these two star-crossed lovers so there is no reason to believe that it should start now. All I know is that the wedding list includes all of DC's greatest heroes, which is good news since most of DC's greatest villains are looking to crash the party.

So there you have it, the big events in '07. All you need to know is right there.

Oh, wait.

Just did the math. That was three funerals and a wedding, not four. Well, there is a fourth, but it's so late in the year I figure you wouldn't mind waiting to find out who it is and what outrageous fortunes that death causes. Good things come to those who wait, and there is plenty of good coming to you from the DCU.

Hope you agree.

To be continued. DD

# DC NATION

For a complete list of this week's titles, sneak peeks, breaking news and more, visit us at dccomics.com

Next in...

**ACTION COMICS #852**

Jimmy Olsen Must Die! But if Superman can't save him, who will?!?

## THE HOT LIST THIS WEEK

AMAZONS ATTACK #3

COUNTDOWN #44

SINESTRO CORPS #1

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